

ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
P. O. BOX 304260
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-4260

Received & Inspected

DEC 212017

FCC Mailroom

TWINKLE ANDRESS CAVANAUGH, PRESIDENT

JEREMY H. ODEN, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

CHRIS "CHIP" BEEKER, JR., ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

JOHN A. GARNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

December 19, 2017

Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554 EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Re: WC Docket No. 10-90

Submitted herewith are letters to Commissioner Pai from each Commissioner at the Alabama Public Service Commission. The following Alabama rural telecommunications carriers selected the revised support offer under the Alternative Connect America Fund Model (A-CAM):

Millry Communications
Butler Telephone Company
National Telephone Company

Oakman Telephone Company Peoples Telephone Company Roanoke Telephone Company

These rural Alabama telecommunications carriers submitted a consolidated request to the FCC, dated December 1, 2017, seeking approval, prior to year-end, for disbursement of additional A-CAM funds. The funds will help provide broadband service to additional rural Alabamians in unserved or underserved areas.

The letters from the Commissioners of the Alabama Public Service Commission express complete support for the Alabama rural carrier A-CAM funding request. The Alabama Public Service Commission respectfully urges the FCC to approve the A-CAM funding request by year-end 2017.

Sincerely yours,

John A. Garner, Executive Director

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December 15, 2017

Mr. Ajit Pai Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St. S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Chairman Pai:

As President of the Alabama Public Service Commission, I continue to advocate strongly in favor of expanded broadband Internet access—most notably in rural, unserved areas.

With that as background, I am writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to approve full-funding by the end of this year for the rural companies that elected to receive federal Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) universal service support. By acting by the end of this year, you and your commission colleagues will ensure thousands of additional citizens from Alabama will benefit from new and/or upgraded broadband services since companies that receive A-CAM support are obligated to provide those services under the FCC's 2016 order.

I understand each company's commitment to reach additional Alabama citizens based on greater funding expires by the end of the year. This presents a unique opportunity for the FCC to make an immediate impact and bring broadband services to rural citizens in our state and across the country. I also recommend the FCC expeditiously evaluate additional universal service funding for the balance of the Alabama rural companies so they too will have the opportunity to reach additional customers.

I appreciate your hard work and dedication in attempting to bridge the digital divide in rural America. Doing so in Alabama is among my commission's highest priorities.

Thank you for your attention in taking this important step and approving additional A-CAM funding yet this year.

Sincerely.

Attachment

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President



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I appreciate your hard work and dedication in attempting to bridge the digital divide in rural America. Doing so in Alabama is among my commission's highest priorities.

Thank you for your attention in taking this important step and approving additional A-CAM funding yet this year.

Sincerely

Jeremy H. Oder

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I appreciate your hard work and dedication in attempting to bridge the digital divide in rural America. Doing so in Alabama is among my commission's highest priorities.

Thank you for your attention in taking this important step and approving additional A-CAM funding yet this year.

Sincerely

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Chris Chip" Beeker, Jr.